

# Society

**P**ENANCE season is on in earnest, and social gaiety is at its very lowest ebb.

There is even more reason for this than the Lenten season, for the young people, particularly the buds of the season, have gone at the pace that kills unintermittently for so many weeks that a few more of these would have made the list of chaperons smaller, if not of buds. The chaperon's life is a strenuous one, and this short season has been a severe test.

It was a season which will be memorable for launching some extremely interesting debutantes, many of them having great wealth, which always creates interest. It will go down in the social history of the Capital as one of the most successful known, in spite of the sadness attendant upon it in the matter of the frail health of the first lady of the land and of the bereavements in the families of several of the most prominent buds. Miss Cromwell was the first to withdraw from society, and was followed a few weeks later by Miss Draper, both of whom are now in mourning for their fathers.

Although Mrs. Taft's health has been poor throughout the season, she has made this season one not soon to be forgotten. She has given real pleasure to hundreds of people, both young and old, who have enjoyed the reconstructed receptions as they never expected to enjoy functions in the White House because of the official character these events necessarily assume. Not so with the musicals, the first one of which she gave last Friday night. The guests, who formed a large company, were for the most part taken from among the numbers of people who were not included in the lists at the evening receptions, just over with last week. The dinner company was a small and congenial one, and the programme was one which was good in every number. The musicals guests were asked for 10 o'clock, and a buffet supper was served at the close. Everything was interesting and agreeable.

Some important changes will be made by the time Easter Sunday dawns again, brightly or otherwise, if rumor proves true. Miss Alice Blech, who has made many friends and admirers during her regime as secretary to Mrs. Taft, will be married to Lieut. Wainwright in the spring, and another is already selected, in Miss May Spiers, to take her place. Miss Spiers is a native of Virginia, and is a cultivated and attractive young woman. She is spending the week-end at her old home, and will probably not take up her new duties before Easter.

The Chinese Lexion has all at once assumed a social importance which has hitherto been unknown in this Oriental circle. Never has there been a representative from the far East who has given such elaborate and tasteful entertainments as Mr. Chang Yin Tang and Mme. Chang have given in the last few weeks. In celebration of the Chinese New Year, they sent out invitations for a large afternoon reception in the home of the Minister in Connecticut avenue, which was the residence of the late Mrs. D. D. Colton, peculiarly adapted to the taste and requirements of the occupants which it has.

This was on Thursday, the regular reception day of the Minister and Mme. Chang. Some of the most blasé society devotees opened their eyes in surprise at the beauty and elaborateness of the decorations and arrangements. The famous stairway of the Colton house was thickly festooned with Southern smilax, azaleas, hyacinths, and roses in all colors, but harmonizing beautifully. Myriads of blossoms appeared to have been used, and so cleverly disposed among the greens as not to appear overdone. The same masses of flowers were everywhere. Mantels were banked with greens and blossoms, and where there was a chance for trailing effects they were there.

In the spacious dining-room La France and Killarney roses were used in abundance, but the great attraction were the wonderful silver dishes holding wonderful Chinese concoctions of all kinds, entirely foreign to the taste and habit of the American citizen, but altogether to their liking. The room was like a picture. Each of the corners had a ray little figure in blue Oriental costume presiding over a tea table, except one, which had a punch bowl.

The two daughters of the Minister and the two single daughters of the special envoy and ambassador, Tong, who spent three months here last winter, dispensed the hospitalities of tea and punch. Mme. Chang, wife of the Minister, and Mme. Chang, jr., daughter-in-law of the Minister, received in the front drawing-room, assisted by Mrs. John W. Foster, wife of the former Minister to China, and former Secretary of State, who is like a

fairly godmother to the inexperienced Chinese women in Washington. She knows better than any other woman what is expected of the family of a diplomat and wherein they are lacking in knowledge, and she never fails to supply the needed aid. The Minister's son made the introductions. He and his picturesque and ambitious little wife are a little in advance of the others of the household in the matter of proficiency in our language. Their costumes, in contrast to Mrs. Foster's handsome but rather somber gray, were wonderfully beautiful. They were all in blue, each one with elaborate and different embroidery of dragons, birds, butterflies, and other Oriental figures, in silver and in gold. The wife of the Minister, in addition to her gorgeous raiment, wore some superb diamonds and pearls, in her ears, her hair, and about her neck.

The table was really wonderful in its setting of rare and curious dishes and condiments known only in the Orient, and produced only by Oriental cooks. The Minister brought his own expert cook with him from Tokyo, and has everything he cannot buy here sent him from home. Wonderful arrangements of figs, dates, lotus seeds, Chinese nuts, and coconuts were offered the guests. It was an entertainment of much hospitable and native grace. Every one went away charmed with the new members of the diplomatic circle.

The women in the family, who are like a group of children, are quite the most interesting and ambitious women from that part of the world, with, perhaps, the single exception of little Miss May Chang, youngest daughter of the Minister, who immediately preceded the late regime of Dr. Wu. They are thirsty for knowledge and improvement, and the customs of the American women are among the seven wonders of the world to them.

## ENTERTAINMENTS.

The College Women's Club announces a course of five lectures on the history of art, to be given by Mr. Earl Barnes, in the Arlington Hotel ballroom, beginning Friday, February 18. The committee on the lectures includes Mrs. M. Martindell, Mrs. L. White Busbey, Mrs. J. P. Doliver, Mrs. R. M. La Follette, Miss George Ross, Miss Sarah E. Simons, and Miss Edith C. Westcott.

The Women's Army and Navy League will give a tea, cake, and candy sale at Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines' Club, in C street, Thursday, February 24, from 3 to 6 o'clock. The committee in charge is composed of Mrs. Audenreid, Mrs. R. B. Bradford, Miss Freeman, Mrs. Lyman Tiffany, Mrs. Alfred B. Taylor, Mrs. J. P. Kelton, Miss Florence Adams, Mrs. R. H. Buckingham, Mrs. P. M. Rixey, Mrs. R. T. Mulligan, Mrs. George P. Elliott, Mrs. Schley, Mrs. C. E. Edwards, Miss Helena C. Palmer, and Mrs. Aulick Palmer.

Members of the Dolly Madison Chapter, D. A. R., and their invited guests spent a delightful evening last Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Tweedale, 1725 P street. The president general of the order, Mrs. Scott, gave an informal talk, and Col. Tweedale read two poems. An address was made by Dr. Woodrow. The singing of "America" closed the meeting.

Mrs. S. P. Brown held a small reception yesterday afternoon at her home in Twenty-first street. Many of her old friends called to offer their congratulations on her birthday. The rooms were converted into a bower of flowers. Among her callers were a few she has known since she first came to Washington as a bride in the early '60s, when her husband was appointed navy agent by President Lincoln. Her daughter, Mrs. Mattingly, and her granddaughter, Miss Gwyneth, and Miss Harriet Conger served tea, coffee, and punch in the dining-room, and her daughters—Mrs. MacDermott, Miss Brown, and Miss Blanche Brown—assisted in receiving. Among those present were Mrs. A. R. Shepley, Miss Swan, Mr. James Morrill, Mrs. J. L. Thompson, Miss Totten, Mrs. Feis, Mrs. Cole, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Webb, Miss Emery, Mr. and Mrs. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Warner, Miss Lawton, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. Barber, Mrs. Wesson, Col. and Mrs. Charles O'Connor, Mrs. Tisdell, Mrs. Conger, and Mrs. Chapin Brown.

Monticello Chapter, D. A. R., met Friday at Hotel Hamilton for the election of a delegate and alternates to the nineteenth congress. Following is the result of balloting: Mrs. Georgiana Rogers, delegate; alternates, Mrs. George Girard, Mrs. David Corser, Mrs. P. R. Barclay, Mrs. Theresa Levers. The regent, Mrs. Mary C. Beach, has the following alternates:

Mrs. Robert Bennett, Mrs. M. B. Kistler, Mrs. James Place, and Mrs. Arthur Burkholder.

Mrs. B. F. Shively, wife of the Senator from Indiana, had a beautiful reception on Thursday afternoon. She was assisted by her mother, Mrs. Jenks, who is with her this winter; Mrs. Crumpacker, wife of Representative Edgar D. Crumpacker; Mrs. William O. Barnard, Mrs. J. P. Megraw, Mrs. Togue, and Miss Margaret Hobson, cousin of Capt. Richmond Pearson Hobson. There were also five young Indiana girls who are at the Laise-Phillips School. Mrs. Barnard, Mrs. Megraw, and Mrs. Togue presided at the tea and coffee.

The Woman's Single Tax Club held its regular monthly meeting at headquarters, 112 East Capitol street, Monday last. After the transaction of the regular business the club was addressed by Mr. E. W. Oyster, his subject being "Taxation in the District of Columbia." One statement

and point lace, with pearls; Mrs. Elmer J. Burkett, of Nebraska, embroidered gray cloth; Mrs. John M. Thurston, of Nebraska, brown chiffon cloth and velvet, with picture hat; Mrs. Morris Brown, of Nebraska, black broadcloth, velvet, and lace; Mrs. Franklin W. Collins, of Nebraska, mauve crepe; Mrs. William H. Chany, of Massachusetts, pale blue silk draped in black lace, with diamonds and pearls; Miss Chany, white silk, with gold trimming; Mrs. James T. Lloyd, of Missouri, mauve satin, with toque; Mrs. Oliver Lloyd, brown Ottoman silk, with picture hat; Mrs. Nellie D. Drexel, ashes of roses crepe and lace; Mrs. Louis Cass Perrell, of Illinois, brown cloth, picture hat with golden willow plume; Mrs. R. P. Bishop, of Michigan, gray messaline silk and net; Mrs. Howard L. Hodgkins, pale blue radium silk and old lace bertha; Mrs. Raymond, of Iowa, white chiffon with touches of heliotrope; Mrs. Robert Miller, emerald gown of white embroidered net, with toque with pale pink

## MAY BE MRS. TAFT'S SECRETARY.



MISS MARY D. SPIERS.

attracted particular attention, and that was that even under the present law the land was not being assessed as high as it should be. Mr. Oyster contended that the land should be rated much higher, especially in certain localities, where the same was held at a high price, and that many buildings, especially the homes of the poor and moderately well-to-do, could be well assessed at a much lower rate, as buildings deteriorate with age. The club hopes in the near future to have in the city at a banquet or meeting, to which the public will be invited, Mr. Joseph Feis, one of the most noted single taxers of the United States.

The February meeting of Potomac Chapter, D. A. R., Mrs. Drury Conway Ludlow, regent, was held Wednesday evening at the home of the Misses Hudson, the Imperial. Despite the weather, many members were present, together with several guests. When the routine business had been disposed of an original paper on "The early transition period of the Revolution" was given by Mrs. Edwin Field Parham. The party adjourned to the dining-room, where refreshments were served. The Misses Hudson were assisted by their niece, Miss Georgia Hudson, a recent addition to the chapter. Mrs. James M. Hoge, Mrs. William H. Wanamaker, and Miss Lily Stratton Clarke were elected alternates to the regent for the coming congress in April.

Dr. Leland O. Howard entertained the Congressional Club Friday afternoon with one of his instructive talks on "Flies and mosquitoes." Mrs. Byrnes, of Tennessee, and Mrs. James McKinney, of Illinois, received the guests, and Mrs. Charles R. Davis, of Minnesota, and Mrs. Stanley H. Dent, of Alabama, poured tea.

Mrs. Everett S. Bumpus, who is giving a series of lectures on "The Madonna and Christ in art" at the National Cathedral School on Sunday evenings, will give a series on "Italian art" at the Woman's Club, 1710 I street. The patronesses are Mrs. Harriet Blaine Beale, Miss Mabel Boardman, Mrs. Morgan Bulkeley, Mrs. Murray Crane, Miss Sarah Crocker, Mrs. Damon, Jr., Mrs. C. H. Davis, Mrs. Chauncey Dewey, Mrs. Charles L. Fitzhugh, Mrs. Eugene Hale, Mrs. John Hays Hammond, Mrs. John Hay, Mrs. R. R. Hitt, Mrs. Archibald Hopkins, Mrs. John A. Johnston, Mrs. J. Brock Perkins, Mrs. William T. Sampson, Mrs. Henry G. Sharpe, Mrs. Barrett Wendell, Mrs. Ten Eyck Wendell, Mrs. N. G. White, and Mrs. George W. Wickesham.

The first formal at-home by the ladies of Leocadia College was a brilliant success, hundreds thronging the parlors, reception-room, library, and halls of the fine old Holmead manor house. This latest addition to the many fine schools for girls for which Washington is noted is making a place for itself and promises to become a permanent and growing institution. Dean L. M. McCoy and Associate Dean Miss Ula Sanders were assisted by the wives of some of the Nebraska Senators and Representatives and many other friends.

A buffet luncheon was served in the dining-room by the young lady students, assisted by Mrs. Ellis Logan, Mrs. Robert Miller, Mrs. Oliver Lloyd, and Miss Alice Bross. Dean McCoy stood at the head of the receiving line, wearing a white lace gown over white silk; Mrs. W. E. Anderson, sea foam green satin and duchess lace; Miss Ula Sanders, white chiffon, with old coral necklace and brooch; Mrs. Pleasant T. Chapman, of Illinois, mode satin and net; Mrs. George W. Prince, of Illinois, black satin

plumes; Mrs. F. E. Edgerton, of Nebraska, wistaria chiffon broadcloth, braided; Mrs. C. W. Burrows, of Michigan, champagne satin and lace; Mrs. W. J. Ethel, of Indiana, tan silk and mirror velvet; Miss Leal Torrey, white embroidered muslin; Miss Christine Excell, pale blue messaline; Miss Ethel Carpenter, pink muslin; Miss Dorothy McElwee, yellow silk muslin; Miss Alice Bross, pink and white muslin and lace; Mrs. Ellis Logan, apricot satin and net; Mrs. P. H. Abbott, of Nebraska, wistaria cloth, black lace over wistaria silk; Mrs. Bentley, black crepe, embroidered; Miss Walkup, lavender chiffon cloth; Miss Craig, wistaria cloth and silk; Miss Gertrude Benedict, of Nebraska, white crepe, gold bands in hair; Miss Margaret Dellett, white embroidered muslin; Miss Pearl White, of West Virginia, white wool, with Valenciennes lace; Miss Margaret Snyder, of Nebraska, heliotrope wool, and Miss Rose Bigelow, of Ohio, green chiffon, black velvet, and lace.

One of the most brilliant and largest attended teas of the season was given Tuesday afternoon by the students of Trinity College. The hundreds of callers represented diplomatic, official, and residential society. The dining-room was decorated with tall palms and scarlet poinsettia blossoms. A string orchestra played throughout the serving of the tea.

Mrs. Frances A. Johnston and her sister, Mrs. C. J. Hazan, gave a tea in the studio of the former's daughter, Miss Frances Benjamin Johnston, last week. Miss Johnston was in New York, but the hospitalities of the famous and interesting studio were dispensed and a large company of guests entertained.

Mrs. Lockwood has sent out cards for a bridge party on Tuesday, February 22, at her home in Massachusetts avenue. The American Ambassador and Mrs. David Jayne Hill gave one of the largest balls of the season at the Hotel Adlon, in Berlin, Germany, to introduce their daughter, Miss Katherine Hill. Crown Prince Frederick William and Prince Oscar were among the 650 guests present.

A delightful at-home was given at the residence of Gen. and Mrs. Tifford last Wednesday, when there were assembled a number of old friends from the army and navy set, Colonial Dames, and others. On the receiving line with the hostess were her sister, Miss Eliza Ashley Dean, Mrs. Allen Perry, Mrs. Kate Kearney Henry, the Misses Michie, Casey, and Stanley. The punch bowl, which had graced many a gathering in the old army days of frontier life, was presided over by Mrs. Fox Conner; the tea table, Mrs. David J. Rumbough; cafe frappe, Miss Julia Tompkins. The house was decorated in pink, laurels and palms, forming a bank for the wealth of roses, carnations, and azaleas, laden with their fragrance and best wishes for the many friends who came to greet the general and his wife on their happy forty-sixth wedding anniversary.

## WEDDINGS—ENGAGEMENTS

The marriage of Miss Elsie Brock and Lieut. Edgar Hall Thompson, Coast Artillery Corps, U. S. A., will take place at the Toronto, next Wednesday, Rev. G. Freeland Peter officiating. Mrs. Frederick Lansing Oliver will be the matron of honor, and the bridesmaids will be Miss Kastner, of Newark, N. J., and Miss Lowery, of New York. Lieut. Rodney Smith, now stationed at Newport, will be Lieut. Thompson's best man, and

Lieut. George Goethals, U. S. A., and Ensign George M. Courts, U. S. N., will be groomsmen. A reception will be given at Rauscher's after the ceremony.

Chaplain Gilbert Cassard, U. S. N., and Mrs. Cassard have announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Mary Emily Cassard, to Assistant Paymaster Dallas Hache Wainwright, Jr., U. S. N. Miss Cassard is a member of the well-known Baltimore family of that name, her great grandfather having been the late Gilbert Cassard, of that city. Paymaster Wainwright is the son of Capt. Dallas Hache Wainwright of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and Mrs. Wainwright, and a nephew of Rear Admiral Richard Wainwright, U. S. N., and has a number of connections in both army and navy. The time is not set for the wedding, but it is expected to occur some time in the early fall.

The marriage is announced of Miss Martha Neal Wallis, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Wallis, of Kent County, Md., to Mr. John Arthur Wheeler, of this city. The ceremony was performed Monday, February 7, at 4 o'clock, in the parsonage of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, by Rev. E. J. Connolly. Only members of the immediate family were present. The bride wore a dark blue suit, with hat to match, and immediately after the ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Wheeler left for Old Point Comfort. On their return they will reside in this city, at 45 Q street northwest.

The marriage of Miss Regina Ruth Davis, daughter of Mrs. R. M. Davis, to Mr. Charles Augustus Mullen, took place last Tuesday at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Rev. Joseph Maceo officiating. The couple left on an extended Southern tour, including Cuba, New Orleans, and Florida. After March 15 they will be at home at St. Owen place, Wakefield, New York City.

## DINNERS AND LUNCHEONS.

Mrs. Thomas H. Anderson entertained at luncheon yesterday in her New Hampshire avenue home. Her guests were Mrs. Lorton, wife of Mr. Justice Lorton; Mrs. Doliver, Mrs. Shively, Mrs. Lowden, Mrs. Mann, Mme. Cruz, Mrs. Maurice Francis Egan, Mrs. Grandin, Mrs. Ashley M. Gould, Mrs. John Reid Shannon, Mrs. MacDonald, Mrs. Seymour, Mrs. Wheeler, Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Hamilton, Mrs. Benjamin S. Minor, Mrs. Rudolph Kaufmann, and Miss Ida Thompson.

Mrs. Perry S. Heath, wife of the former Assistant Postmaster General, entertained at luncheon yesterday in their new home at Florida avenue and S street, in honor of Mrs. Graeme Stewart, of Chicago, a sister of Mrs. George M. Pullman, who, with her daughter, Miss Stewart, is staying at the New Willard.

Mrs. J. Eakin Gadsby entertained at a bridge party and supper last evening in honor of her house guest, Miss Elizabeth Dearborn, of Manchester, N. H., who will leave to-morrow for her home, stopping en route in New York and Boston.

Representative and Mrs. Weeks, of Massachusetts, entertained a dinner company last evening, in honor of the Secretary of the Interior and Mrs. Ballinger.

Mrs. Marshall, wife of Gen. William L. Marshall, entertained at a luncheon yesterday in her Bancroft place home.

Mrs. Fairchild, wife of Representative Fairchild, of New York, has invitations out for a luncheon on Tuesday, March 1, to meet Mrs. Sherman, wife of the Vice President.

Mrs. Gilbert Wilkes entertained a small company at an informal dinner on Thursday evening in honor of Mrs. Mattis, formerly Miss Elsie Curtis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Curtis, who is the guest of her parents. The other guests were the members of the Curtis and Mattis families.

Mrs. Byron Andrews gave a luncheon yesterday, having as her guests Mrs. Burrows, Mrs. Goodloe, Mrs. Gilliland, Mrs. Fleming, Mrs. Cranford, Mrs. Wheelwright, Mrs. Goodrick, Mrs. Carpenter, Mrs. Peelle, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Hellman, Mrs. Orme, Mrs. Scofield, Mrs. McKean, Mrs. Boughton, Mrs. Conner, Mrs. Godel, Mrs. Dapray, Mrs. White, Mrs. Merrill, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Marsh and Miss Marsh, Mrs. Peter A. Porter, Jr., Mrs. Young, Mrs. O'Connell, Mrs. Salter, Mrs. Hubbard, Mrs. Middleton, and Mrs. Polhemus. There were eight tables of bridge after luncheon, with a prize for each table, and one final prize.

Mrs. W. H. Sholes will receive to-morrow afternoon from 3 to 6 o'clock. Assisting her will be Mrs. P. V. De Graw, Mrs. Clifford K. Berryman, Mrs. Bates

Continued on Page 3, Column 1.

**At Sloan's Art Galleries**  
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